

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 00893 131125Z

14/15

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /089 W

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R 091605Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5563

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 893

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADD EO TAGS AND SUBJ LINES)

IO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS

DEPT PASS LABOR FOR SECRETARY USERY AND COMMERCE
FOR UNDER SECRETARY BAKER

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS ILO, AORG, NO

SUBJ ILO DISCUSSIONS NORWAY

41. I MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND ACCOMPANIED
BY MR. NYHEIM, FOREIGN OFFICE DESK OFFICER FOR UN
AFFAIRS, AMBASSADOR BYRNE AND LABATTS OSLO AND
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 00893 131125Z

GENEVA. ALSO HAD BRIEF MEETING WITH MINISTER FOR

SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

2. VERY LENGTHY MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHARACTERIZED BY HIS HAND-WRINGING ABOUT US INTRANSIGENCY AND IMPLICATIONS FOR US OF U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO. TO MINISTER'S QUESTION AS TO WHETHER WITHDRAWAL WOULD MEAN FIRST STEP IN WITHDRAWAL FROM OTHER UN INSTITUTIONS, I REPLIED THAT ILO PRESENTED UNIQUE SET OF PROBLEMS FOR THE U.S. BECAUSE OF ITS TRIPARTITE STRUCTURE BUT ADMITTED THAT U.S. WITHDRAWAL COULD NOT HELP BUT HAVE BROADER IMPLICATIONS WHICH NONE OF US AT THIS POINT COULD FORESEE. FOREIGN MINISTER ARGUED WE SHOULD STAY AND FIGHT FROM WITHIN BUT MADE CLEAR THAT OUR VIEWS HAD TO BE ACCOMMODATED WITH THE VIEWS OF ALL OTHER NATIONS AND COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY WE WERE UNWILLING TO COMPROMISE DEMANDS.

3. I RESPONDED THAT WE ARE DEMANDING NOTHING OF NORWAY OR OUR OTHER ALLIES BUT FOR OURSELVES FELT QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE WERE INVOLVED. IN RESPONSE TO MINISTER'S QUESTION AS TO WHETHER WE WANT NORWAY TO ALSO WITHDRAW FROM THE ILO, I SAID THAT EACH COUNTRY WOULD HAVE TO MAKE ITS OWN DECISION AND WE WOULD NOT DEEM IT APPROPRIATE TO ADVISE NORWAY. FURTHERMORE, IF THE DEMOCRACIES STOOD TOGETHER IN THE ILO ON ISSUES WHICH TOUCHED VALUES THAT THEY ALL SHARED, WE COULD STOP CONTINUED EROSION AND EVENTUALLY FORCE THE ILO TO CONCENTRATE ON ITS LEGITIMATE WORK.

4. MINISTER FRYDENLUND ASKED HOW OUR POSITION WAS CONSISTENT WITH "DETENTE AND GRAIN SALES TO THE SOVIETS" AND I EXPLAINED THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE COMPELLING NEED FOR A MILITARY MODUS VIVENDI BUTTRESSED WITH MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS ECONOMIC RELATIONS ON THE ONE HAND AND OUR RELUCTANCE TO COMPROMISE ON DEMOCRATIC IDEALS AS THEY ARE ATTACKED IN THE ILO ON THE OTHER.

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PAGE 03 BELGRA 00893 131125Z

5. IN DISCUSSION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, MINISTER FRYDENLUND UNCOMFORTABLE WITH OUR BLANKET OPPOSITION TO COMMUNISTS IN FOUR ELECTIONS BUT TOWARDS END OF MEETING SEEMED ATTRACTED TO CANADIAN WORKER JOE MORRIS FOR PRESIDENCY OF ILO CONFERENCE, HASSE AS CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNING BODY AND TUNISIAN LABOR MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE. FRYDENLUND SAW MORRIS AS PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE AS POSSIBLY AVOIDING

CONTRONTATION WITH EASTERN EUROPE. NYHEIM, MINDFUL
OF NORWEGIAN CHAIRMANSHIP OF WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE
ASKED FOR MY VIEWS ON UK COMPROMISE ON STANDING
ORDER 17. I USED THAT AS PERFECT EXAMPLE OF THE
KINDS OF ACCOMMODATION WHICH HAVE ERODED THE
POSITION OF THE DEMOCRACIES IN THE ILO, ARGUING
THAT THE BRITISH APPROACH AS COMPARED TO EXISTING
OVERLY LOOSE STANDING ORDERS WAS A DISTINCTION WITHOUT
A DIFFERENCE SINCE THE CONSTITUTION WAS ALL EMBRACING
IN ITS PURSUIT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE. NEITHER FRYDENLUND
NOR NYHEIM DISAGREED BUT ON THE OTHER HAND THEY
DID NOT CONCEDE THE POINT. NYHEIM ALSO INDICATED
THAT NORWAY BELIEVED THE LDC'S SHOULD HAVE A GREATER
VOICE IN THE ILO AND THEREFORE FAVORED ENLARGEMENT
OF THE GOVERNING BODY.

6. MEETING WITH SOCIAL MINISTER NEXT DAY BECAUSE OF
BREVITY RESULTED ONLY IN ASSURANCE, GIVEN ALSO BY
FOREIGN MINISTER, THAT NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD
GIVE MATTER HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

7. COMMENT: GON SEES ITSELF IN POSITION OF OLYMPIAN
COMPROMISER AMONGST VARYING VIEW POINTS OF ROUGHLY
EQUAL VALIDTY. DOESN'T CLEARLY SEE OVERRIDING
COMMUNITY OF INTEREST WITH DEMOCRACIES IN
ILO. AS RESULT VIEWS U.S. AS JUST ONE MORE
CONTENDER FOR NORWAY'S SUPPORT AND CHERISHES ILLUSION
THAT NOTICE OF INTENTION TO WITHDRAW SIMPLY DEVICE
ON OUR PART TO SEEK ADDED LEVERAGE.
SILBERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BELGRA00893
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760055-0474
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760269/aaaaciun.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <02 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO DISCUSSIONS NORWAY 41. I MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND ACCOMPANIED
TAGS: AORG, NO, ILO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006